

13 August 1948

Captain H. H. Smith-Hutton, USN  
Naval Attache  
American Embassy  
Paris, France

VIA ONI POUCH

Dear Smith-Hutton:

Thanks very much for your letter of 2 August. I was away when it arrived and, consequently, that explains the delay in answering it.

25X1

I certainly agree with you about the work and the life in Paris, and frankly if I could drop this thing and come back and relieve you in Paris, I would do it gladly and joyfully. This job is all right, but I personally would like to be back on the Avenue Gabriel.

If we can be of any help to you, please be sure to let me know. In the meantime, with very best wishes,

Sincerely,

*Signed & dispatched 8-16-48 to*  
R. H. Hillenkoetter *Oni Mailroom*  
Rear Admiral, USN  
Director of Central Intelligence

DIA review(s)  
completed.

CONFIDENTIAL

## AMERICAN EMBASSY

OFFICE OF THE NAVAL ATTACHE

CONFIDENTIAL .

2. AVENUE GABRIEL

PARIS

2 August 1948.

Dear Admiral,-

I know that you are constantly seeing people from Paris and the rest of Europe and that [ ] especially had much information to give to you. He told us when he came back that he had had a long talk with you, and that he had tried to bring you up to date on our office as well as on other things. In that connection I asked Captain Orem to pass on to you and to Captain Sabalot a thought or two I have in regard to [ ] Frankly I wasn't sorry to see him go because he did so little work in the last six months he was in the office that he wasn't very much help. However that's neither here nor there since he is no longer with us. One thing however I must tell you and that is that I have felt it wise to drop most of his friends and contacts at least for the time being. The major reason is that we have so much other work piled up for ONI that I just can't spare the time myself and I don't see how I can spare any of the other officers very well either. I think that many of his friends required more time and effort that they were worth. However I want you to know that I am always ready to take up where he left off and to assist in any way that I can. Therefore, if you have any one specific in mind or if there is anything which you consider must be kept on by my office and nobody else, please let me know. There is a lot going on here at the moment and I'm just trying to cover the ground with a very few people .

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I saw [ ] twice and while I enjoyed talking to him gathered that his trip here was largely educational for him, and that he was surprised and pleased by what he had learned in France. I am sure, however, that his work among the Catholics at home will be much better directed and more purposeful than if he hadn't come and from that standpoint his visit was worth while indeed . One approach to many of our problems is through men like him and I think that we should keep him in mind .

I continue to find the work and the life here in Paris most interesting, and I must say that I consider myself lucky to be here. It is one of the most interesting

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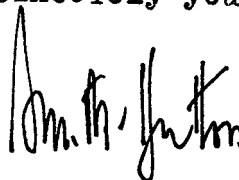
jobs a naval officer could have - as you know very well. You probably don't have the time nor the interest in our reports that you once had but anyway I can tell you that we are trying our best to keep our section of the monograph up to date .

One of the most pleasant parts of our life here is the delightful house which we inherited from you - or rather which you were kind enough to hold for us. It has turned out comfortable beyond all of our expectations and as you told me when I saw you in Washington, it is one of the very nicest in Paris . I will always be grateful to you for having held it for us .

I'm sorry that I didn't see Captain Finnegan when he was here - I missed him by about two minutes in the office .

Please don't fail to let me know if there is anything I can do for you here - or any other place in Europe .

Sincerely yours,



Rear Admiral R.H. Hillenkoetter, USN.,  
Central Intelligence Agency,  
Washington, 25, D.C.